

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Minutes of the September 21, 2016 Regular Meeting**

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A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held on September 21, 2016, 10th Floor Operations Conference Room, Stamford Government Center.

In attendance were:

Commissioners: Joe Andreana
 Dave Winston
 Lyda Ruijter
 Althea Brown

Staff: Laurie Albano
 Kevin Murray

Guests: Jay Inzitari – Planting Plan for Rippowam Park
 Eric Railis – Planting Plan for Rippowam Park

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Joe Andreana, Chair.

Review of the August 17, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Ruijter made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Mr. Winston

Unanimously Approved

Discussion

Vision of Parks Through 2035.

Final Review and Approvals.

- Mr. Andreana informed the Commission that the Special Olympics were a great success. They were very happy with the park and the facilities and would like to come back next year; they asked if they could have the Softball Field adjacent to the

Bocce Courts. Ms. Albano and Mr. Murray will try to work something out for them for next year.

- Mr. Andreana spoke to Assistant Chief Wuennemann and was told that the Police will be attending the October Commission meeting to present the 2016 Park Season Report to the Commission. The October meeting will be a Regular Meeting, it will not be open to public participation.
- Commissioners reviewed the latest DRAFT of the Guidelines, focusing on the Vendors section and some revisions were made.
- Vendor for Cummings, Cove Island, West Beach and Terry Conners Ice Rink is protected by Contract, no other Food Trucks can vend in these parks. Vendor sometimes subs out to another vendor, which may be a Food Truck.
- Mr. Andreana would like Cashiering & Permitting to provide to the Commission a copy of the current Policy for having Food Trucks in the parks.
- Mr. Andreana stated that once the Guidelines are approved by the Commission, they will have to go through Administration, Legal, Health Department, Police Enforcement, etc.
- **Ms. Brown left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.**
- The Commission would like to review Contracts and RFP's as they go out.
- Ms. Ruijter feels that the Guidelines should require Vendors to offer healthy alternatives. Mr. Andreana does not think that the Commission should tell people what they can and cannot eat and what they can and cannot serve.
- Mr. Andreana stated that the section regarding Equitability should not be part of the document.
- Sanitary and hygienic standards of the Food Trucks are a responsibility of the Health Department and should not be part of the document.

Mr. Winston made a motion to approve Policies in Chapter 4 Partnerships with the Community, to include 4.1.1. General guidelines for any community group, 4.a. Volunteer Community Groups (VCGs), 4.b. Not-for-Profit Businesses (NPBs), 4.c. Private Public Partnerships (PPPs), 4.d. Incidental Use of Parks for Fundraising Purposes.

Seconded by Ms. Ruijter

YES: Mr. Winston
YES: Ms. Ruijter
YES: Mr. Andreana

**Naming of Driveway off of Shippan Avenue in Front of Two Softball Fields
“William “Mac” MacLaughlin Way”.**

- Mr. Winston does not consider naming a driveway after anyone a significant recognition and finds it inappropriate, if a person deserves recognition, let's give them recognition. Mr. Winston feels that this will be another sign in the park and it sets a bad precedent.
- Mr. Winston suggested using a backstop or some kind of fence or section to be called a Hall of Fame.
- Ms. Ruijter researched what other cities do in this kind of situation, some Cities suggest waiting 2 or 3 years before anyone is up for naming somewhere. Other suggestion was whatever they are naming needs to add value to the park.
- Mr. Andreana feels that this will set a precedent and suggested to hold until the Commission comes up with a thought on where a Wall of Honor can be set up to put up plaques to honor various individuals.

Mr. Winston made a motion to deny request to name driveway off of Shippan Avenue “William “Mac” MacLaughlin Way” and continue discussion to find a suitable way to recognize people’s contributions.

Seconded by Ms. Ruijter

YES: Mr. Winston
YES: Ms. Ruijter
YES: Mr. Andreana

Special Events

No Special Events.

Tournaments

No Tournaments

Old Business

Jay Inzitari – RMS Companies – Review of Planting Plan for Rippowam Park.

- Mr. Jay Inzitari and Mr. Eric Ralis explained and discussed the Planting Plan for Rippowam Park with the Commission.
- The park will have a variety of plant material, this way at any given time of the year there will be some flowering activity in the park, so it is never all green or all one of anything.

- Mr. Inzitari stated that the City and the Stamford Police do not want any benches or walkways in the park.
- RMS will maintain the Park; there is a maintenance agreement in place.
- Park will have an irrigation system.

Mr. Winston made a motion to approve the Planting Design as presented.

Seconded by Ms. Ruijter

YES: Mr. Winston
 YES: Ms. Ruijter
 YES: Mr. Andreana

Laurie Albano – Proposed Donation of Official Horseshoe Courts by the Jewish Community Center.

- Request withdrawn pending further investigation of location.

New Business

Laurie Albano and Kevin Murray – Discussion of Hours of Operation at Lione Park per the Installation of Upcoming Athletic Field Lighting.

- Ms. Albano stated that Athletic Field Lighting will be installed at Lione Park opening the park to evening play, the current closing time is 10:00 p.m.
- Commissioners would like the park closing time to stay the same, 10:00 p.m., unless there are complaints from the neighbors.

Staff Reports

Laurie Albano – Recreation.

- Swim lessons all filled and going well.
- Softball Tourney on August 27/28 went well.
- Fall Adult Softball has begun with an all-time high of 56 teams registered.
- Fall Adult Kickball has begun with 11 teams.
- Fall Indoor Adult Volleyball has begun with 22 teams.
- Cove Tram will continue to run thru September on weekends only.

- Fall youth and adult program registration continues to go well/some programs started, most next week.
- Terry Conners Rink revenue (Financial Report was provided).
- Terry Conners Rink Roof Project is done, but waiting on final walk thru.
- Stanley Security at Terry Conners Rink on all doors is now back up and functioning.
- Terry Conners Rink Fall/Winter ice rental schedule is full, and programs have all begun.
- Terry Conners Rink door/frame project is completed.
- Terry Conners Rink floor insurance settlement funds of \$200K set aside/consultant hired to assess floor for either repair or full replacement. Consultant report has been completed and best is to replace and Engineering will begin the task of design work soon.
- Terry Conners Rink has \$251K in Capital with \$50K currently bonded. A projects list is being compiled mostly for mechanicals and new humidification system and software. Staff Engineer has been assigned.
- Mr. Winston asked Ms. Albano, if at all possible, to look for the quieter cooling fans possible for Terry Conners Rink.
- Public Open Swim has begun with a new fee/pass system adjusted to cost.
- Recreation revenue (Financial Report was provided).
- FY 17-18 Capital Budget meeting will be held on September 29th to discuss and review Park and Rink project proposals.
- Working already on the Recreation Winter 16-17 programs and leagues.
- List of events approved by the Parks & Recreation Internal Committee at the September 5, 2016 Special Meeting and the September 13, 2016 Regular Meeting:

Special Meeting – September 6, 2016:

Chris Shilowich – Eskimo – Stamford Health Commercial – Use of Cove Island Park for Filming of Commercial – Thursday, September 8, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Set-Up Starts at 7:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 3:00 p.m. – 14 Adults and 2 Children.

- Only Cargo Van will be allowed over the bridge.
- Passenger Vans will not be allowed over the bridge.

Kevin Murray made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Frank Fedeli

Unanimously Approved

Regular Meeting – September 13, 2016:

Consent Agenda

Michelle Ramppen – Caring Hands for Huntington’s Disease – Walk-a-Thon – Cove Island Park – Sunday, October 9, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Set-Up Starts at 8:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 2:00 p.m. – 100 Adults and 25 Children.

Frank Fedeli made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Kevin Murray

Unanimously Approved

Penny Mazzucco – Patriotic & Special Events Commission – Veterans Day Parade – Use of Veterans Memorial Park – Sunday, November 13, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. – Set-Up Starts at 9:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 2:00 p.m. – 175 Adults and 25 Children.

Kevin Murray made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Laurie Albano

Unanimously Approved

Special Events

Lynne Colatrella – Stamford Downtown Special Services District/D.S.S.D. – Stamford 375 Fort Stamford Play – Use of Fort Stamford for Play – Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – Set-Up Starts at 9:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 6:00 p.m. – 100 Adults.

Laurie Albano made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Kevin Murray

Unanimously Approved

Renee Dunn – ALSAC/St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital – St. Jude Walk/Run to End Childhood Cancer – Run/Walk Extending into Kosciuszko Park – Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – Set-Up Starts at 7:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 1:00 p.m. – 500 Adults and 100 Children.

Frank Fedeli made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Kevin Murray

Unanimously Approved

Tiffany Sanders – R.F. Youth Boxing Inc. – Stamford Stand Up for Youth 5K – 5K Run/1.5 Mile Walk thru Kosciuszko Park – Saturday, October 22, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. – Set-up Starts at 8:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 1:00 p.m. – 200 Adults and 50 Children.

Frank Fedeli made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Laurie Albano

Unanimously Approved

Jon Stellwagen – Stamford Family YMCA – Monster Dash 5K and 1 Mile Family Fun Run – Use of Columbus Park – Saturday, October 29, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. – Set-Up Starts at 7:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 10:30 a.m. – 250 Adults and 50 Children.

Kevin Murray made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Frank Fedeli

Unanimously Approved

Daniel Karger – PTSD Warriors – Use of Cove Island Park for PTSD Warriors Picnic – Saturday, October 1, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Set-Up Starts at 8:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 5:00 p.m. – 50 People will be Attending. – (Added to the Agenda).

Kevin Murray made a motion to approve with the condition that the proper paperwork is filled out.

Seconded by Frank Fedeli

YES: Kevin Murray
YES: Frank Fedeli
YES: Laurie Albano
YES: Ernie Orgera

Tournaments

James Cuglietto – Corporate Softball Tournament – Big 4 Tournament – Use of Cummings 1 & 2 or Scalzi 1 & 2 – Saturday, October 15, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Laurie Albano made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Karla Parham

Unanimously Approved

Kevin Murray – Parks.

- **375th Celebration:** Fireworks display on Monday, September 5th, park viewing sites were Kosciusko Park and also John Boccuzzi at Southfield.
- SoundWaters fence behind trailer at John Boccuzzi at Southfield was added.
- **Beach Vendor:** Rolling Dough Express has had a great spring/summer, positive feedback. Concession Bid to be put out this winter.
- **Baseball/Softball:** Fall Leagues – all games will be completed by October 31st.
- **Fort Stamford:** Parking lot repaved by City staff.
- **Park Seasonal Employees:** Last day will be October 15th.
- Engineering Capital Report has been requested. Expect full update for October meeting.
- Special Olympics Bocce Tournament held at Scalzi Park on Saturday/Sunday, September 10th and 11th was a huge success.
- **Maccabi Games:** Huge success within the parks.
- **Zika Committee Task Force:** Met with new Health Director and directive up till first winter freeze and posting of information within the parks.
- **Scofieldtown Park:** Park has been turned over to Park and Facility Maintenance on September 20th. Ribbon cutting to be announced.
- **Lione Park Master Plan:** Met with City staff and consultant – Redniss & Mead/Wesley Stout Assoc.
- **Scalzi Tennis Courts:** Met with Derosa construction and planned for court repair also obtaining a court redo proposal for Capital submission.
- **Chestnut Hill Park:** Working with Land Use for Concept Plan Design for the playground. Land Use hired Aris Land Studio for plan.
- **Playground Upgrades:** Working off inspection reports on all playgrounds to reduce all safety hazards per the report.
- **Veterans' Park Project:** Met on September 14th which went over site furnishing options, financials, and schedule review.

- **Stamford Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan:** Part of the Technical Advisory Committee for the City staff.
- **The Trust for Public Land:** Previously approved Fitness Equipment for Cove Island. Update: will request to be on the October Agenda for site approval for Cove Island or different options within Cove or different location.
- **Parks Annual Report:** Submitted to the Administration.
- **Mianus River Park Update:** Bridge Project is complete, installing guard rails currently to complete this month. Restoration plantings will be added on the completion of the guard rails.
- **Reminder:** John Boccuzzi at Southfield Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 27th at 6:30 p.m. – 6th Floor, Training Room.

The next Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 19, 2016.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Winston

Seconded by Ms. Ruijter

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Margarita Arenas
September 27, 2016